

***KLAMATH RIVER BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE  
MEETING  
October 10-11, 2001  
Siskiyou County Golden Fairgrounds, Floral Building  
Yreka, CA***

***FINAL MINUTES***

**October 10, 2001**

**KLAMATH RIVER BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE**

**REPRESENTING:**

California Commercial Salmon Fishing Industry  
California Department of Fish and Game  
California In-River Sport Fishing Community  
Del Norte County  
Hoopa Valley Tribe  
Humboldt County  
Karuk Tribe  
Klamath County  
Klamath Tribe  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Siskiyou County  
Trinity County  
US Department of Agriculture  
US Department of Interior  
Yurok Tribe

**NAME:**

Dave Bitts  
Mike Rode  
Kent Bulfinch  
Not represented  
Mike Orcutt (alternate)  
Paul Kirk  
Ronnie Pierce (alternate)  
Not represented  
Elwood Miller, Jr.  
Irma Lagomarsino (alternate)  
Keith Wilkinson  
Jim De Pree (alternate)  
Not represented  
Margaret Boland  
John Engbring, Chair  
Dave Hillemeier

**Agendum 1. Convene and opening remarks**

The following members were not present: Chuck Blackburn, Del Norte County; Don Russell, Klamath County; and Chris Erikson, Trinity County. John Engbring opened the meeting and gave an update on the mediation process. He said that the BOR is currently developing the BA for next years operations and NMFS and FWS will respond with the BO. The hope is not to repeat the events of this past summer. Keith Wilkinson commended Phil Detrich and staff for their work on the new Task Force brochure.

**Agendum 2. Introductions of Congressional staff in attendance**

There were no congressional staff members attending.

**Agendum 3. Business**

**Agendum 3a. Adoption of agenda**

A legislative update was added to Agendum 6. Mike Rode requested that a fall fishing season report be added to Agendum 12. John Engbring requested that the status of the petition requesting Coho listing be added to Agendum 12. Keith Wilkinson said he would add a report on the Oregon ocean harvest to Agendum 12. Mike Rode asked to include a discussion of whether coho are native or endemic to the Klamath Basin to Agendum 13.

**\*\*Motion\*\* Kent Bulfinch moved to adopt the amended agenda.**

**\*\*Second\*\* Mike Rode seconded the motion.**

**\*\*Motion Passed\*\* unanimously.**

**Agendum 3b. Adoption of minutes from June 2001 meeting**

Members were given until the following day to review the minutes. At that time the following changes were made: Dave Hillemeier requested that the last sentence on page 3 having to do with the numbers of breeding green sturgeon be deleted.

**\*\*Motion\*\* Keith Wilkinson moved to adopt the amended minutes for the June 2001 meeting.**

**\*\*Second\*\* Dave Bitts seconded the motion.**

**\*\*Motion Passed\*\* unanimously.**

**Agendum 3c. Schedule November Budget Committee meeting**

The Budget Committee meeting was scheduled for 9 a.m. November 16, 2001 at the YFWO in Yreka, CA. Funding for the extra meetings held in August and September will be discussed.

**\*\*Assignment\*\* The Budget Committee will meet November 16, 2001 at 9 a.m. at the YFWO in Yreka, CA. Among the items to be discussed are funding for the additional joint meetings between the Task Force and the Hatfield Upper Working Group, and a further discussion of how to include the \$750,000 funding in the budget.**

**Agendum 4. Brief review of last meeting actions/general correspondence/program update**

Laurie Simons reviewed the list of assignments and motions from the June 2001 meeting, as follows:

**Agendum 5 B** These items were included on the October agenda.

**Agendum 14 B** This review was included on the October agenda.

**Agendum 15 B** The YFWO sent a list of funding sources in the Klamath Basin to Task Force members. This is also available as a handout.

**Agendum 19 B** Task Force minutes, agenda and current information are now being posted on the Yreka FWS website which is linked to the klamathgroup.org website.

Laurie Simons discussed the August 29 and September 12-13 working sessions and reviewed correspondence. These included Klamath Task Force Funded Projects for FY 2002 (*See Handout Agendum 4*), Task Force Unspent and Incomplete Projects 3-Years-Old and Older as of October 1, 2001 (*See Handout Agendum 4*). She noted that the status of unspent/incomplete projects is in good shape due to this new tracking process, and asked Task Force members to notify her if they know of other unspent funds/incomplete projects. The Partial List of Funding Sources for Environmental Restoration Activities in the Klamath Basin as of September 30, 2001 (*See Handout Agendum 4*) is a copy of the list sent to all Task Force members.

**Agendum 5. Brief updates and announcements**

**Agendum 5a. Update on recovery planning**

Irma Lagomarsino said that NMFS=two technical recovery teams (TRTs) will meet October 23-25 in Santa Cruz. These teams will develop recovery goals for individual ESUs and will prioritize limiting factors during phase 1 of recovery planning. There is a TRT for Southern Oregon/Northern California coast coho; this is a transboundary Oregon/California team. The second phase of the recovery plan is developing a Phase 2 Team, comprised of stakeholders, including but not limited to those with a technical background. The group will develop a range of recovery actions that achieve the recovery goals. NMFS is currently defining the role of this Phase 2 Team. She said the first meeting is not open to the public but successive meetings will be. In response to questions, she said that the Phase 2 Team will commence once the TRTs have completed phase 1 of recovery planning.

Elwood Miller asked how recovery planning of salmon will coordinate with sucker recovery. Steve Lewis, FWS, said they have a continuing dialogue, but no plan. Jim De Pree asked how the recovery planning process was developed, if there was public input. Public input is important early in the process. Irma Lagomarsino said she would have to check.

**Agendum 5b. Update from Long-term Funding Sub-committee**

This was deferred to Agendum 6 at Keith Wilkinson's request. He said this discussion should be part of a larger discussion on recommendations from the Joint Meeting and Working Session with Hatfield Upper Klamath Basin Working Group.

**Agendum 5c. Report on FWS Congressional funding request**

John Engbring described the request for additional \$750,000 funding for the last 4 years of the Task Force operations (*Handout Agendum 5c*), and added that there is little attention being paid to this because of the lack of surplus and recent terrorist events. There was general Task Force member discussion on this issue, with several members saying that the Budget Committee should develop a strategy to obtain the additional funding.

**Agendum 5d. Update on petition to list green sturgeon**

Irma Lagomarsino said NMFS received a petition to list green sturgeon, and now has 90 days to decide whether the petitioned action may be warranted. She said NMFS is still deliberating, but will likely decide the action is warranted. If so, a one-year status review will begin (from the receipt of the petition) to determine whether to list green sturgeon.

**Agendum 5e. Update on Judge Hogan decision**

Irma Lagomarsino briefly outlined the decision by Judge Hogan in which NMFS was told hatchery fish must be included in an ESU. NMFS has not decided yet whether to appeal the ruling. An environmental group is appealing the decision. She said NMFS is especially concerned about the precedent for ESUs on the West coast. One option is to redo all status reviews and rethink what hatchery fish mean to the recovery of native fish.

**Agendum 5f. Outreach activities/Siskiyou County Fair**

Phil Detrich described the decision by the YFWO to host a booth at this year's Siskiyou County Fair, despite the heightened controversy in the community. The YFWO staff received education on issues of the Upper Basin from Steve Lewis' office in case these issues were asked about. The booth was placed next to the California Highway Patrol booth. Phil Detrich said that the event enabled the YFWO to demonstrate the positive aspects of restoration projects and the outreach was extremely valuable during a difficult time.

**Agendum 6. Report from Klamath Watershed Coordination Group**

**Agendum 6a. Klamath Basin Compact Commission**

Alice Kilham said the Commission has not done much during the crisis, but said the Commission is playing a big role in encouraging the governors of Oregon and California to discuss the current situation. She said she has not received feedback from Bill Leary, CEQ, but will contact him.

**Agendum 6b. Hatfield Upper Klamath Basin Working Group**

Jim Carpenter, Co-Chair, gave an update on the group, which is now operating without a charter due to not being reauthorized. He spoke with Sen. Wyden's office and was told the focus is on putting together a \$148 million package with broad-based support. There is no money for acquiring wetlands, conservation easements and buying out willing farmers. He said Sen. Smith and Rep. Walden are not supporting reauthorization because of lack of support from their constituency; this further emphasizes the need for a larger transboundary group, he said. The group has decided to continue coordinating with lower basin groups and is interested in either merging with the Task Force or joining a larger group. Steve Lewis, FWS, said the BOR will continue to fund the group through 2001; the ERO office in Klamath Falls is continuing to fund the restoration fund as well. Funding is secure for contractors to develop a basin plan as this is a contract between the BLM and Jones & Stokes. However, the group will not be protected by FACA and this must be considered.

**Agendum 6c. Trinity Management Council**

Mike Orcutt described the formation of the new Trinity Management Council, an eight-member group that oversees restoration for the Trinity River basin. He gave an overview from the last TMC meeting. A workshop was held in June to look at budget issues. The FY 2002 \$10.15 million budget was approved; of this figure, \$7 million is funded by the BOR and \$2 million by the FWS. He said the stakeholders fall under the Trinity Management Working Group, which meets under FACA with a charter being planned. Litigation is proceeding, and Interior agreed to produce a supplemental EIS. The TMC is paying for this with \$1 million from the FY 2001 budget and \$1 million from the FY 2002 budget. An executive director has been hired. Mike Orcutt stressed that with all the attention on events in the upper basin, people should not lose sight of the vast number of fish contributed by the Trinity River to the Klamath Basin.

**Agendum 6d. Legislative update**

John Engbring said he is not aware of new major legislation regarding restoration efforts. There is one small bill to study the potential removal or rebuilding of Chiloquin Dam. Jim Carpenter mentioned the \$148 million funding package sponsored by Sen. Wyden.

**Agendum 7. Discussion of Recommendations of Joint Meeting and Working Session with Hatfield Upper Klamath Basin Working Group**

**Agendum 7a. Mediation update**

Task Force members discussed the mediation process. Keith Wilkinson said the last meeting was a workshop with a smaller number of attendees. Paul Kirk said November 7 is the proposed next meeting. The emergency needs of the upper basin will be the focus in upcoming meetings. He recommended that the Task Force decide what role it should play in the mediation process. Ronnie Pierce listed recent requests for the Appropriations Committee, including \$4.5 million for FWS flow studies, \$2 million to study Chiloquin Dam, \$2.5 million for well construction in Oregon, \$1.2 million for the Klamath Tribe for restoration work in the upper basin. John Engbring said it is questionable whether any of these projects will be funded. Laurie Simons said the FACA solicitor she consulted said Klamath Act language gives the Task Force broad scope but Federal members cannot lobby. The consensus was the Task Forces position must be made clear. Peg Boland suggested that non-federal members sign a letter to congressional members and Ronnie Pierce stressed that the Task Force should inform delegates of its position.

**Agendum 7b. Summary of Joint Meeting (Aug. 29) and Working Session (Sept. 12-13)**

Ronnie Pierce discussed the list of Potential Basin Actions she compiled using Task Force/Hatfield Working Group recommendations at the September 12-13 meeting. (*See Handout Agendum 7*). Kent Bulfinch said this list should be given to legislators to assist developing a bill. Discussion ensued whether to discuss the items one-by-one or for the Task Force to draft a generic letter to legislators/mediation process stating its position. Several ideas were suggested, including drafting a Task Force letter recommending the mediation group choose an overseeing group to carry out the most vital restoration projects in the basin. John Engbring said it is important to move before the Task Forces February meeting. John Engbring said he would have the YFWO draft a letter covering the four main issues raised by Ronnie Pierce with detail on a recovery plan. The main points would include the generic problems in the basin, how the recovery process would fit in, mention of Ronnie Pierces list document and emphasis on the need for an inclusive upper/lower basin group.

**\*\*Assignment\*\* YFWO staff will draft a letter stating the Task Force-s position on the status of restoration of salmon in the Klamath River Basin and the kinds of actions that are needed. This letter will list the general problems in the Basin, how the Task Force envisions this fitting into the recovery process, the need to have FACA-chartered committees that address the Basin as a whole (either through re-chartering the existing groups or formation of a new group), and include mention of Ronnie Pierces List of Proposed Actions. This draft letter will be distributed to Task Force members for comment. YFWO will also provide a draft mailing list of potential recipients for review by Task Force members.**

### **Agendum 8. Public Comment**

Dr. George Schaap, farmer and rancher, said he is concerned the Task Force does not represent the following four stakeholder groups: cattlemen, farmers, logging industry and mining industry. He then spoke briefly on a number of issues, including lack of water in the Scott Valley, excessive regulations governing industries such as his rice business, sea lions/seals preying on coastal salmon and the problems of what he termed fuzzy science. He criticized the governor of California for not appointing a supervisor for Siskiyou County.

Pete Brucker, Salmon River Restoration Council, said it is vital to be prepared for a possible drought in 2002.

### **Agendum 9. Siskiyou County Department of Public Works Fish Passage Projects**

Brian McDermott, Siskiyou County Department of Public Works, briefly outlined his career as a civil engineer and expressed his concern that the environmental process is becoming increasingly cumbersome and inefficient. He described the evolution of the five-county process for county roads and planning, and said this group has been able to obtain results. The group focuses on county-maintained roads with fish migration barriers needing removal. The Siskiyou County department has also conducted a road erosion inventory to spot those places where land can slide and push material into waterways. The department is currently developing a road maintenance manual that will be reviewed by the five counties and agencies such as NMFS, CDFG and others.

Brian McDermott then showed slides of several recent projects, including bridges that replaced culverts on the Scott River (at Rail Creek, on Masterson Road and at Deep Creek). He described the process of convincing FEMA that replacing the original conditions would be more wasteful and costly than building new bridges. In some cases, all the funds were not used. Another project on Barkhouse Creek involved using a railroad flatcar and pre-cast abutments to appease a landowner who wanted a temporary bridge; 12 miles of new habitat were made available. He said the department hopes to have all fish passage projects finished within five years.

### **Task Force Comment**

Irma Lagomarsino said she applauds the effort of the five-county group, and said NMFS will prioritize the manual. She said she hopes the process will continue to improve.

Mike Rode said he was impressed about the solutions being developed to deal with fish migration barriers and would like to see this happen in coastal communities as well.

### **Agendum 10. Presentation of Nathaniel S. Bingham Memorial Awards**

Kent Bulfinch opened the awards presentation by commemorating the late Nathaniel Bingham, both for his work as vice-chair of the Task Force, and for his recognition that knowledge and involvement of the local community and non-federal agencies was essential to any restoration effort.

Kent Bulfinch presented a plaque for the Nathaniel S. Bingham Group Award to Brian McDermott of the Siskiyou County Department of Public Works for their fish migration barrier removal projects, which have made available nearly 50 miles of new streambed habitat and reduced upslope sediment. The following organizations were commended and given Certificates of Appreciation for their extraordinary effort to assemble the comprehensive symposium on the Klamath Basin last May: The Klamath Inter-Tribal Fish and Water Commission, Humboldt State University's College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and College of Natural Resources and Science, and the Organizing Committee of the 2001 Klamath Basin Fish and Water Management Symposium, held in Arcata, CA in May 2001. The Symposium Organizing Committee members are: Ward Angles, Jim Carpenter, Charlie Chamberlain, Gary Emery, Yvonne Everett, Merve George, Jr., Pat Higgins, Dave Hillemeier, Alice Kilham, Akimi King, Paul Kirk, Mike Orcutt, Ronnie Pierce, Mike Rode, Dave Ross, Sabra Steinberg, Steven Steinberg, Wedge Watkins and Betsy Watson. Carlin Finke was also commended for her work with the Scott River Watershed

Council organizing existing watershed information into a bibliography and developing additional GIS layers the group needed for its restoration work. Dr. Mike Deas was recognized for his significant contributions to Klamath fisheries restoration by providing high quality aquatic models, organizing intensive field studies, and communicating this information to the public.

The Nathaniel S. Bingham Memorial Individual Award was presented to Ronnie Pierce, who was honored with a plaque for her outstanding commitment and significant contributions in working with cooperators toward restoration of anadromous fish in the Klamath Basin. Kent Bulfinch noted her efforts in keeping tribal issues in front of the Task Force and John Engbring noted that she has spent many hours of personal time on restoration issues. Ronnie Pierce commented that working on restoration issues in the Klamath River is most often a thankless task with few high points in her 20 years of work. However, she added, receiving this plaque is one of the high points.

### **Recess**

The Task Force then toured several Siskiyou County Department of Public Works fish passage projects on a field trip led by Brian McDermott.

### **Reconvene October 11, 2001**

The same members were present as the first day except that Jim Kilgore represented the Department of Agriculture for Margaret Boland.

### **Agendum 11. Report from Technical Work Group**

Peter Brucker spoke for Dan Gale, who was not able to attend. He described TWG's field trip to the mid-Klamath Subbasin, which looked at road decommissioning, fire concerns, and the disconnection between the river and some of the streams. Toz Soto provided a packet of draft plan products the subbasin is working on; this is incomplete and is included in the List of Incomplete Projects (*See Handout Agendum 4*). At their next meeting the TWG should have a completed mid-Klamath draft plan to review.

Pete Brucker also raised the issue of TWG's realization that the mainstem is a sub-basin in itself; a meeting in late November will explore the mainstem issue, and will look at how the Flow Study can help with this. He said TWG needs feedback from the Task Force on this issue.

### **Task Force Comment**

Several members asked about existing information on the mainstem. Pete Brucker replied that the mid-Klamath is just one part of the mainstem. The information on the mainstem needs to be compiled. Ronnie Pierce said the Karuk Tribe hopes to get funding to conduct an assessment of all minor tributaries flowing into the mainstem between Seiad and Weitchpec. This can be considered part of a mainstem plan. The other issue is the corridor, which is being handled by the Flow Study. Therefore, she said, the mainstem is covered, except for the stretch of river above Iron Gate. Task Force members said TWG should make a mainstem presentation at the February meeting.

**\*\*Assignment\*\* YFWO will place a discussion of how to move forward on a plan for the mainstem Klamath on the agenda for the February 2002 Task Force meeting.**

### **Agendum 12. Status of Klamath River escapement (CDFG)**

#### **Agendum 12a. In-River Fishing Season Report**

Mike Rode referred to the handout regarding Klamath River escapement (*See Handout Agendum 12a*). He said 2001 was an unusual year with abundant chinook populations but all-time low landings below Pt. Reyes. The salmon moved northward following bait, mostly anchovies. Ocean sport fishery showed same pattern with a 50% decline from 2000, mostly below Ft. Bragg.

Keith Wilkinson agreed that there was a northerly shift in the fisheries this year. The Oregon total through September 23 was 252,159 (compared with 110,000 in 2000, and 59,000 in 1999) with the majority coming in at Newport. Brookings only had 2,100 fish. Recreational catch for fall chinook was 25,026 fish (compared with 23,000 in 2000, 6,300 in 1999). Paul Kirk added that Crescent City, CA fish catch was down, but that fish were larger and excellent quality.

Mike Rode spoke on the Fall Chinook Angler Harvest Summary (*See Handout Agendum 12a*). This year more than three times as many adults were caught/harvested as in 2000. Grilse numbers are down, indicating a smaller return of 3-year-olds expected next year. Angler trips were up 50% over last year. He gave a Steelhead Angler Harvest Summary in lower Klamath River, which showed more than two times the amount of steelhead adults caught and released in 2001 compared to last year. The grilse numbers also doubled.

Dave Hillemeier said the Yurok fisheries have caught 30,000 adults so far this year, well under the 60,000 allocation. He noted the estuary was plugged with sediment awhile this year. During this time fish only came in at high tide.

Mike Rode discussed the Iron Gate Hatchery escapement, and said the total number of adults is down substantially: 1,755 compared to 22,386 last year. Last year the steelhead return was the best in a decade (529) but this year only 54 have returned. The fish are predominantly 4-year-olds. These low figures may be due to a later run and the fish are waiting for water temperatures to drop. Kent Bulfinch suggested that we need to be looking at temperature effects on the runs in addition to flow effects.

Mike Rode gave a brief mention of Shasta Creek and Bogus Creek Fall Chinook Trapping Operations. On Shasta Creek figures are 6,313 so far this year versus 10,719 at the same time last year. On Bogus Creek, the marking operation shows a 39 fish return in 2001 compared to 105 in 2000 at this time. At Trinity River Hatchery, the spring chinook returns were 5,845, compared to 12,192 in 2000. Mike Orcutt reported preliminary harvest numbers of 4,200 spring chinook and 4,000 fall chinook on the Hoopa Reservation.

#### **Agendum 12b. Status of petition to list coho under CA Endangered Species Act**

Mike Rode referred members to the handout (*See Handout Agendum 12b*), which provides a background of the petition submitted July 28, 2000 for California to list coho. The CDFG made a recommendation on Feb. 2, 2001 that the Commission accept the petition for consideration, making coho a candidate species. During the status review, take authorization is provided. The Commission will make its final listing decision in May 2002 after a 30 day public comment period beginning in April. He referred members to the CDFG website, [www.dfg.ca.gov/fg\\_comm/2001mtgs.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fg_comm/2001mtgs.html).

Dave Bitts asked about the impact on commercial and sport fisheries, and was told that there has been a ban on take since 1993, and listing would not change this. Paul Kirk asked about restrictions on land-use, mining, timber harvest, etc. and how coho listing might affect inland communities. Mike Rode said this will all be considered. He also said this is in the talking stages and CDFG is formulating a direction.

#### **Agendum 13. Report from Arcata FWO on Klamath Flow Study and juvenile outmigrant studies**

Bruce Halstead, Arcata FWO, gave a brief update of the Flow Study. He said this is a five year study and thanked the Task Force for getting it funded for the first time this year. He clarified that the Flow Study will not state what flows are needed for the fish, but will show how much habitat is available under different flows. Therefore, if there is a recommendation to release a certain amount of water, the amount of habitat available can be ascertained, based on the information in the Flow Study. In response to Task Force member questions, Bruce Halstead said that the Flow Study is adding biological information to the Hardy Study, and all information is being plugged into the SIAM model, including tributary information.

Bruce Halstead also spoke about juvenile outmigrant studies. He said 2000 was an average year for steelhead on the Trinity River, but numbers were extremely low on the Klamath because the high water temperatures, and resulting algae problems, meant crews had to pull out early. Coho on the Klamath River were also low and a little below average on the Trinity River. The average chinook count on the Trinity is 40,000; this year the number was 35,000. The average chinook on the Klamath is 23,000; this year the number was 10,000 but there was less sampling.

Bruce Halstead said, based on historic information, coho existed as far up as where the Copco Dam is now but did not establish themselves far up into the Klamath. The mitigation requirements are that the hatcheries produce coho as they existed originally. Mike Rode said coho are found all over West Coast, so the Klamath Basin is well within range of coho historically. He said that the many arguments against native coho in the Klamath are not true. The Shasta and Scott were ideal habitats for coho before european settlement. He said there is confusion historically as all salmonid types were lumped together.

Phil Detrich referred to the letter from Marcia Armstrong of the Siskiyou County Cattlewomen's Association, stating that coho were not native to Klamath Basin. (*See Handout Agendum 13*). A number of members have been contacted and asked if coho is native to the Klamath River. Keith Wilkinson said that in 1993 the Task Force did not take a position on this issue after commissioning a report by Dr. Barnhardt. Mike Rode said the Barnhardt report was asking to what degree should the coho stocks be considered separate - a different question. Kent Bulfinch referred to studies by Dr. Robert Benke which found that coho have always existed in the Klamath Basin. Dave Hillemeier said a study should be conducted to assess the genetic structure of coho populations in the basin.

#### **Agendum 14. Public Comment**

Brian Favero, Siskiyou County resident/fisherman, asked about several issues, including the 300-foot setback for anadromous fish and the potential social and economic issues of an EIR for coho. He said Iron Gate Dam had a direct impact on the demise of the Klamath River system and led to a tremendous decline in trout, steelhead and salmon. He agreed with Kent Bulfinch that water temperature effects are important and wondered if the committee has insight on letting a lot of water out of the reservoir instead of holding it to heat up. Ronnie Pierce responded by saying that the Task Force has funded studies to look at this and members are active in the FERC relicensing process and are speaking with PacifiCorps about the impacts of their series of reservoirs. Brian Favero said he was encouraged by the discussions in this group.

#### **Agendum 15. Status of 2001 Klamath Project Operations and Long-term Plan/EIS**

Because Dan Fritz, BOR, could not attend, Task Force members updated each other on this issue. John Engring said that NMFS and FWS can not work on a BO until they see what the BOR is proposing, and this is being closely followed.

John Engring then discussed the recent news that irrigators had filed to dismiss their lawsuit, thereby making it unclear whether mediation would continue. Ronnie Pierce asked how this would impact the idea of the Task Force writing a letter to the mediation group. She said this also reinforces a general belief that a combined new group of upper/lower basin stakeholders is the best approach to restoration. John Engring said a Task Force letter should be sent to several different groups, not just the mediation group.

Task Force members discussed the BOR's first draft BA, which was supposed to be released to the public on October 19 but has moved to November 7. There was discussion as to whether BOR will show the draft to cooperating agencies before public release. Irma Lagomarsino said that NMFS became concerned that BOR did not release a multiyear opinion, therefore the agency released an amendment of its April 6 opinion setting flows of 1300 cfs between Oct. 1-Dec. 31, 2001. After much discussion, agencies agreed to keep flows at 1300 cfs and the lake level at 41.39. The lake will bear the risk, but water quality has been better this fall due to a cool summer and good winds. Dave Hillemeier asked about plans to revisit flows in a month because of tribal trust issues; a November meeting on this issue is likely.

Ronnie Pierce said the tribes do not consider FERC minimums for winter months to be enough for fish during most years. It is important to remember that these flows are acceptable because it is a drought year.

#### **Agendum 16. Discussion of spring chinook Issues**

##### **Agendum 16a. Status of spring chinook**

Irma Lagomarsino explained the history of the status of spring chinook. She said the Biological Review Team (BRT) looked at chinook issues and found a very small genetic distinction between spring and fall chinook in the Klamath Basin. Because the distinction between the two is so small, NMFS felt they should be part of the same ESU. However, NMFS is concerned about spring chinook runs and supports conservation/restoration efforts for them.

##### **Agendum 16b. Fishing regulations and impacts**

Dave Hillemeier said historically spring chinook was the largest run and were numerous in the upper Klamath Basin and above Trinity River dam. Numbers of spring chinook declined once the dams were built. There is concern about



the natural populations, especially on the South Fork Trinity River and Salmon River. In 1964, 10,000 adults were counted on the South Fork Trinity River; currently, there are 300 or less spring chinook there. There is a healthy run of Trinity hatchery spring chinook. Tribes are advocating research on potential management for spring chinook. KFMC has assigned this issue to TAT, and this will be discussed at upcoming meetings. TAT is working on fall chinook modeling and this model may be useful for spring chinook modeling. He added the cumulative in-river harvest has been 20% of the in-river escapement and this is not alarming.

**Agendum 17. Task Force review of recommendations from Mid-term Evaluation Oversight Committee**

This was deferred until the February 2002 Task Force meeting upon Ronnie Pierce's request.

**Agendum 18. Public Comment**

Alice Kilham said she would try to obtain more funding for joint meetings, especially if the mediation process folds. Dwight Russell, DWR, worked to get \$1 million for mediation meetings from California. John Engbring said the upper basin must be part of the process. Alice Kilham said Sen. Wyden is concerned about the mediation process folding and supports joint Task Force/Hatfield group meetings.

Felice Pace, KFA, said he was pleased to see KFMC and Salmon River Restoration Council are looking at spring chinook, and asked that a letter be written determining the effort of sport fishing on spring chinook, particularly at the mouth of creeks, particularly Blue Creek on the Salmon River. Mike Rode suggested he approach the KFMC about this issue as the Task Force is reluctant to jump into KFMC business. Felice Pace reiterated that key watersheds are degraded and this is impacting spring chinook.

Pete Brucker, Salmon River Restoration Council, said more studies are needed to explore habitat concerns on the Salmon River. He said the Council is applying for salmon recovery funding. Mike Rode said the Flow Study's goal is to look at the tributaries to address water quality and reveal whether there is a mainstem bottleneck in the Salmon River. Mike Rode said this points to the need for completed subbasin plans; he suggested the Salmon River Restoration Council finish its plan.

**\*\*Assignment\*\* John Engbring will speak with state officials involved in the mediation process to determine what they plan to do with the funds set aside for mediation meetings.**

**Task Force Comment**

Jim De Pree asked about the Forest Service position on spring chinook. Jim Kilgore said road work is continuing, but we would like to have more funds to do more.

Dave Bitts expressed concern that KFMC is only looking at one piece of the spring chinook issue, and suggested that TWG take a closer look at the possible causes for the decline of the spring chinook run.

**\*\*Assignment\*\* TWG will examine the primary and possible causes for the continuing decline at the spring chinook population, particularly in the Salmon River. TWG will give an update on the status of this request at the February 2002 Task Force meeting.**

**Agendum 19. Recap and Summary of Assignments and Motions**

John Engbring reviewed the meeting's assignments and motions (*See attached list*).

**Agendum 20. Date and location of 2002 meetings**

The February meeting will be February 6-7, 2002 in Brookings, OR; the June meeting will be June 19-20, 2002 in Weitchpec, CA.; the October meeting will be October 16-17, 2002, in Klamath Falls, OR.

**Adjourn**

***KLAMATH RIVER BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE  
MEETING  
October 10-11, 2001  
Siskiyou County Golden Fairgrounds, Floral Building  
Yreka, CA***

***GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS***

AFS	American Fisheries Society
BA	Biological Assessment
BC	Budget Committee
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BO	Biological Opinion
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation
BRD	Biological Resources Division
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CDWR	California Department of Water Resources
Council	Pacific Fishery Management Council
CPUE	Catch-per-unit-effort
CRMP	Coordinated Resource Management Program
CVI	Central Valley Index
CVM	Contingency Valuation Method
CVPIA	Central Valley Project Improvement Act
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DFG	Department of Fish and Game
DOC	Department of Commerce
DOE	Department of Ecology
DWR	Department of Water Resources
EA	Environmental Assessment
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ESU	Evolutionary Significant Unit
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Administration
F&G Commission	Fish and Game Commission (CA)
FMP	Fishery Management Plan
FWO	Fish and Wildlife Office
GIS	Geographic Information System
HAWG	Harvest Allocation Working Group
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
I/O	Input/Output
IFIM	Instream Flow Incremental Methodology
IGD	Iron Gate Dam
IGH	Iron Gate Hatchery
KCZ	Klamath Control Zone
KFA	Klamath Forest Alliance
KFMC	Klamath Fishery Management Council
KMZ	Klamath Management Zone
KOHM	Klamath Ocean Harvest Model
KP	Klamath Project
KPOP	Klamath Project Operation Process
KRSMG	Klamath River Salmon Management Group
KRTT or	Klamath River Technical Team

KRTAT	Klamath River Technical Advisory Team
LCDC	Land Conservation and Development Commission
LIAM	Legal and Institutional Analysis Model
LR	Long Range
MFCMA	Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MSY	Maximum Sustained Yield
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NEV	Net Economic Value
NCIDC	Northern California Indian Development Council
NGO	Non Governmental Office
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPPA	Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act
NWS	National Weather Service
OCN	Oregon Coastal Natural
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OFR	Office of Federal Register
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OY	Optimum Yield
PAC	Provincial Advisory Committee
PacFIN	Pacific Coast Fisheries Information Network
PFMC	Pacific Fishery Management Council
PSTA	Pacific Salmon Treaty Act
RIR/IRFA	Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
RCD	Resource Conservation District
SAS	Salmon Advisory Subpanel
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
SEIS	Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
STT	Salmon Technical Team
TAT	Technical Advisory Team
TCC	Technical Coordinating Committee
TFF	Trinity Task Force
TID	Talant Irrigation District
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load]
TMC	Trinity Management Council
TRT	Trinity Recovery Team
UBA	Upper Basin Amendment
WCZMP	Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
WEF	Washington Department of Fisheries
WFA	Women for Agriculture
YFWO	Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office

***KLAMATH RIVER BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE  
MEETING  
October 10-11, 2001  
Siskiyou County Golden Fairgrounds, Floral Building  
Yreka, CA  
FINAL AGENDA***

October 10, 2001

1. Convene and opening remarks. John Engbring, chair and Mike Orcutt (Joseph Jarnaghan alternate), vice chair. Vice chair for next meeting is Joseph Jarnaghan, Hoopa Valley Tribe.
  2. Introduction of Congressional staff in attendance
  3. Business
    - a. Adoption of agenda
    - b. Adoption of minutes from June 2001 meeting
    - c. Schedule November Budget Committee meeting
  4. Brief review of last meeting actions/general correspondence/program update
  5. Brief Updates and announcements
    - a. Update on recovery planning by NMFS
    - b. Update from Long-term Funding Subcommittee
    - c. Report on FWS Congressional Funding request
    - d. Update on petition to list Green Sturgeon
    - e. Update on Judge Hogan decision
    - f. Outreach Activities/Siskiyou County Fair
  6. Report from Klamath Watershed Coordination Group
    - a. Klamath Basin Compact Commission
    - b. Hatfield Upper Klamath Basin Working Group
    - c. Trinity Management Council
    - d. Legislative update
  7. Discussion of recommendations from Joint Meeting/Working Session with Hatfield Upper Klamath Basin Working Group
    - a. Mediation update
    - b. Summary of Joint Meeting and Working Session
  8. Public Comment
  9. Siskiyou County Department of Public Works Fish Passage Projects
  10. Presentation of Nathaniel S. Bingham Memorial Awards
- Recess/Field Trip

October 11, 2001

11. Report from Technical Work Group (TWG)

12. Status of Klamath River escapement
    - a. In-River Fishing Season Report/Ocean Harvest
    - b. Status of petition to list coho
  13. Report from Arcata FWO on Klamath Flow Study and juvenile outmigrant studies
  14. Public Comment
  15. Status of 2001 Klamath Project Operations and Long-term Plan/EIS
  16. Discussion of spring chinook issues
    - a. Status of spring chinook
    - b. Fishing regulations and impacts
  17. Task Force review of recommendations from Mid-term Evaluation Oversight Committee
  18. Public Comment
  19. Recap and Summary of Assignments and Motions
  20. Date/location of 2002 meetings
- Adjourn

***KLAMATH RIVER BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE  
MEETING  
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Yreka, CA***

***LIST OF HANDOUTS***

Agendum 4	Table, YFWO, Task Force Unspent and Incomplete Projects 3-Years Old and Older as of October 1, 2001
Agendum 4	Table, YFWO, Klamath Task Force Funded Projects for FY 2002
Agendum 4	Table, YFWO, Partial List of Funding Sources for Environmental Restoration Activities in the Klamath Basin as of September 20, 2001
Agendum 5c	Letter to Acting Manager of CNO from Klamath Supervisor of CNO regarding the Klamath Act of 1986
Agendum 7	Suggested Amendments/Modifications to Karuk Tribe's List of Proposed Actions from the Working Session of the Task Force/ Hatfield Upper Klamath Basin Working Group
Agendum 7	Potential Basin Actions as per KTF/Hatfield 9/11/2001
Agendum 12a	Tables, CDFG, Klamath River Escapement/CDFG Fall Chinook Angler Harvest Summary Report
Agendum 12b	Proposal, CDFG, Proposal to List Coho (Silver) Salmon under the California Endangered Species Act/CDFG Fact Sheet (Sept. 24, 2001)
Agendum 13	E-mail letter, Marcia Armstrong, Siskiyou County Cattlemen's Association, addressing whether coho are native to the Klamath Basin
Agendum 16	Revision of the Long Range Plan, Review of Actions Taken Prior to October 11, 2001

***KLAMATH RIVER BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE  
MEETING***

***October 10-11, 2001***

***Siskiyou County Golden Fairgrounds, Floral Building  
Yreka, CA***

***LIST OF ATTENDEES***

October 10, 2001

**Name**

**Representing**

Alice Kilham  
Richard Christie  
Peg Boland  
Gary Curtis  
Dr. Geo Schaap  
Joseph Jarnaghan  
Laura Fujii  
Shanna Draneum  
Jim DePree  
Petey Brucker  
Jim Kilgore  
Stephanie Carpenter  
Steve Lewis  
Jim Carpenter  
Don Flickinger  
Dave Webb

Klamath River Compact Commissio  
Shasta River CRMP  
US Forest Service **B** Klamath National Forest  
US Fish and Wildlife Service **B** Yreka FWO  
Scott Valley Rancher  
Hoopa Tribe  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
Siskiyou County  
TWG/Salmon River Restoration Council  
US Forest Service **B** Klamath National Forest  
Watershed Council  
US Fish and Wildlife Service **B** Klamath Falls  
Hatfield Working Group  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Shasta CRMP

October 11, 2001

**Name**

**Representing**

Jim Kilgore  
Gerald Roland  
Brian Favero  
Ron Reed  
Jeff Mitchell  
Joseph Jarnaghan  
Mike Duguay  
Steve Most  
Dave Webb  
Steve Lewis  
Felice Pace  
Petey Brucker  
Alice Kilham  
Jim DePree

US Forest Service **B** Klamath National Forest  
Self  
Self **B** Fisherman  
Karuk Tribe  
Klamath River Inter-Tribal Fish & Water Commission  
Hoopa Tribe  
Siskiyou RCD  
  
Shasta CRMP  
US Fish and Wildlife Service **B** Klamath Falls  
Klamath Forest Alliance  
TWG/Salmon River Restoration Council  
Klamath River Compact Commission  
Siskiyou County

***KLAMATH RIVER BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE  
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***MOTIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS***

**Motions**

Agendum 3a

**\*\*Motion\*\*** Keith Wilkinson moved to adopt the amended minutes for the June 2001 meeting.  
**\*\*Second\*\*** Mike Rode seconded the motion.  
**\*\*Motion Carried\*\*** unanimously.

Agendum 3b

**\*\*Motion\*\*** Keith Wilkinson moved to adopt the amended minutes for the June 2001 meeting.  
**\*\*Second\*\*** Dave Bitts seconded the motion.  
**\*\*Motion Carried\*\*** unanimously.

**Assignments**

Agendum 3c

**\*\*Assignment\*\*** The Budget Committee will meet November 16, 2001 at 9 a.m. at the YFWO in Yreka, CA. Among the items to be discussed are funding for the additional joint meetings between the Task Force and the Hatfield Upper Working Group, and a further discussion of how to include the \$750,000 funding in the budget.

Agendum 7b

**\*\*Assignment\*\*** YFWO staff will draft a letter stating the Task Force's position on the status of restoration of salmon in the Klamath River Basin and the kinds of actions that are needed. This letter will list the general problems in the Basin, how the Task Force envisions this fitting into the recovery process, the need to have FACA-chartered committees that address the Basin as a whole (either through re-chartering the existing groups or formation of a new group), and include mention of Ronnie Pierce's List of Proposed Actions. This draft letter will be distributed to Task Force members for comment. YFWO will also provide a draft mailing list of potential recipients for review by Task Force members

Agendum 11

**\*\*Assignment\*\*** YFWO will place a discussion of how to move forward on a plan for the mainstem Klamath River on the agenda for the February 2002 Task Force meeting.

Agendum 18

**\*\*Assignment\*\*** John Engbring will speak with state officials involved in the mediation process to determine what they plan to do with the funds set aside for mediation meetings.

Agendum 18

**\*\*Assignment\*\*** TWG will examine the primary and possible causes for the continuing decline at the spring chinook population, particularly in the Salmon River. TWG will give an update on the status of this request at the February 2002 Task Force meeting.